

REMARKS

Pending claims 1-37 have been cancelled. New claims 38-79 have been added.

Petition for Extension of Time

5 A petition for a 3-month extension of time is enclosed along with a credit card payment form for the required fee.

Deposit Account Authorization

Applicants believe that no additional fees are necessary at this time. However, in the 10 event additional fees are required, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to take any necessary fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, from deposit account 50-0913.

A Brief Review of One Embodiment of Applicants' Invention

In one embodiment of Applicants' invention, a table game system is provided that allows 15 a player to place a side wager in conjunction with a primary game. The use of a video display, such as an LCD screen, may allow for dynamic side wager presentations to be presented to the player, increasing player interest and therefore encouraging players to play longer and generating more revenue for the gaming establishment. *See* pages 5, 7, and 45.

Applicants teach that the video display can be used for a variety of purposes. A video 20 hub may receive a variety of independent video content sources that are displayed on the video display. For example, the video display may present sporting, news, or other video entertainment, text, or banners. *See* page 44. The video content source may be sources such as a VCR, television, cable video source, DVD, or a hard disk drive. *See, e.g.*, page 32. The video content may be generated by sources that are independent of the table game or the table

equipment. For example, a live sporting event may be down loaded using a satellite link. This video content is generated from sources that are completely separate and independent from the table game apparatus.

When used as part of the side wager game, the video display may display animation

5 sequences relating to the side wager game. For example, Applicants disclose a game called “follow the queen” where images of three cards are displayed and animated on the video screen.

See pages 44-45.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Ornstein

10 To the extent that the office feels that the rejections of claims 1-37 are relevant to new claims 38-79, applicants provide the following remarks.

The Office rejected claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,570,885 issued to Ornstein (hereinafter “Ornstein”). Ornstein purports to disclose an “Electronic Gaming System and Method for Multiple Play Wagering”

15 Title. Figure 1 appears to show video screens 16 on a table. No video terminal is indicated as being mounted above the game tables. Rather, figure 1 contains the annotation “TO REMOTE TERMINALS.”

Claim 38 of Applicants’ application specifically requires a tuner in communication with the video controller, the tuner being adapted to receive video content sources that are generated 20 independently from the table game. Since Ornstein does not teach, disclose or suggest a tuner that receives video content that is generated remote from the game table, it does not meet all limitations of Applicants’ claims and does not anticipate them.

Ornstein teaches away from applicant’s invention in that the content of Ornstein’s display is generated internally by processor 90, (see figure 7 and column 4, lines 20-27).

Independent claims 46, 53, 54, 61 and 69 of Applicants' application specifically require a video hub that receives video content sources that are generated independently from the table game. Since Ornstein does not teach, disclose or suggest a video hub, it does not meet all limitations of Applicants' claims and does not anticipate them.

5 Because Ornstein does not teach all limitations of Applicants' claims, Applicants respectfully submit that new claims request the Office to withdraw the §102(e) rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office rejected claims 3, 4, and 7-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ornstein in view 10 of U.S. Patent No. 4,856,787 to Itkis (hereinafter, "Itkis").

Itkis purports to suggest "a distributed game network comprising a master game device and a number of slave game devices." Itkis states that "The slave game devices executes in real time (play) concurrently a number of menu-selectable card and chance games, such as bingo, keno, poker, blackjack, and the like.", (see column 1, lines 40-53).

15 As previously discussed Ornstein does teach disclose or suggest a video tuner or video hub that can receive video content that is generated remotely.

Applicants further believe that Itkis fails to teach, disclose or suggest the inventions claimed in claims 38, 46, 53, 54, 61 and 69, specifically a video tuner or video hub that can receive video content that is generated independently of the game table.

20 Because Ornstein or Itkis do not, alone or in combination, teach or suggest all elements of Applicants' claims, they do not render Applicants' claims obvious. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Office to withdraw the §103(a) rejection.

In re application of: Bradley W. Johnson

Serial Number: 10/026,289

Page 17

CONCLUSION

For all of the above reasons, the Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the application or amendment, the Examiner is encouraged to call the Applicants' attorney at (775) 826-6160.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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November 19, 2004